P24133.A02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicant

Yoshihiro NOGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No

10/696,029

Filed

JAN 0 7 2004

October 30, 2003

For

DATA COMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS AND DATA

COMMUNICATIONS METHOD

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 11-088533 to KOKUSAI ELECTRIC CO. LTD. and KUNII HIROOMI, published March 30, 1999 and which is cited at page 1 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above document. A copy of the above-noted document, as well as an English language abstract, is attached, and has been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-

P24133.A02

1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official

communication in the present application to confirm consideration of the document.

Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending, commonly

assigned U.S. Patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No.10/695,943 to NOGUCHI et al., filed October 30, 2003

and entitled "Data Communication Apparatus and Data Communication Method".

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-noted U.S. Patent

application, as filed, is attached hereto. However, the examiner is also requested to review

the file of the above noted application, and the references, if any, of record therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshihiro NQGUCHI et al.

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December 30, 2003

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| Applicant Yoshihiro NOGUCHI et al.   |                                   |  |
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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |                                   |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |                                   |  |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)   |                                   |  |
| English Language Abstract of JP 11-88533.  |                                   |  |
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| *EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |                                   |  |